

REMARKS

This paper responds to the Office Action mailed on November 1, 2005.

Claims 2, 4, 11-14, 19, 29, 34, 52 and 55 are amended, claims 1, 5, 10, 15, 17-18, 20, 22-25, 27-28, 30-33, 36, 51, and 53-54 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 2-4, 6-9, 11-14, 16, 19, 21, 26, 29, 34-35, 37-50, 52, and 55-79 are now pending in this application.

Applicant herein amends claim 29 into independent form and corrects an antecedent basis informality to clarify the claim.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1, 5, 15, 17, 18, 20, 25 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto (U.S. 6,157,414) and further in view of Kim et al. (U.S. 6,714,692). Claims 10, 13, 14, 22-24, 27, 28, 31-33, 51, 53 and 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sakamoto and Kim et al., and further in view of Tse et al. (U.S. 5,473,342). These rejections are now moot.

§101 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 30-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention of is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 30 recites the limitation “a program product comprising a signal-bearing media bearing instructions, wherein the instructions...” which are non-statutory. Claims 30-33 are canceled without prejudice. This rejection is traversed as pending claim 34 as previously pending defines statutory subject matter.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 6-9, 16, 21, 26, 35, 37-50, 56-72 and 73-79 were allowed.

Claims 2, 4, 11, 12, 19, 29, 52 and 55 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. These claims are

rewritten into independent form. These claims are not narrowed by amendment. Accordingly, the claims remain entitled to a full scope of equivalents.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 349-9587 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

BURTON WRIGHT

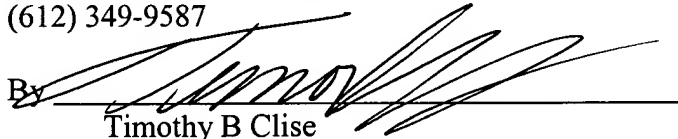
By his Representatives,

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Date

31 Jan '06

By


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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 31 day of January, 2006.

Name

MARY GANNON

Signature

